

the bill shows the degree to which the 2020 election is injecting itself into issues as seemingly obscure and regional as the recognition of a Native American tribe and its plans for a casino. Warren has been routinely criticized by Trump and others for claiming Native American heritage—though there's no evidence it secured her a post or a job.

But some opposition to the casino measure seems to be rooted in money as much as politics.

Several Trump-connected lobbying groups have been hired on behalf of Twin River Management Group, which owns a Rhode Island-based casino that would compete with Mashpee Wampanoag's casino if they get the greenlight from Congress.

One firm hired by Twin River is run by Trump adviser Matt Schlapp, who has, since January, been lobbying Congress and the White House on their behalf. Twin River has paid his firm, Cove Strategies, \$30,000 for its work so far this year.

An hour after Schlapp tweeted his opposition to the bill last Wednesday, President Trump himself tweeted his own call to kill the legislation—a move that effectively scuttled Republican support and stalled its progress on the House floor.

The legislation is expected to be up for a vote again on May 15. Without congressional action to enshrine their tribal rights, the casino deal in Taunton, Massachusetts will fall through.

Unlike Schlapp, APP doesn't appear to have a vested financial interest in the Mashpee Wampanoag issue. Its top donors over the past few years include major conservative funders such as the Mercer family, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, Missouri roofing magnate David Humphreys, and Equinox Partners president Sean Fieler, according to financial records left unredacted on the website of Florida's secretary of state.

None of those funders appear to have an immediate interest in the construction of a new Massachusetts casino. Instead, APP's opposition appears rooted entirely in Warren's perceived involvement in the issue—and her ongoing campaign for the White House.

The legislation pulled from the House floor last week, Schweppe wrote, "amounted to a taxpayer bailout for a corrupt casino conglomerate, which wouldn't stand to benefit American families but would stand to benefit Senator Liz Warren, one of the leading Democratic candidates for President."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 16, 2019 I missed the following vote and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 211. On Friday, May 17, 2019 I missed the following votes and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 215; YEA on Roll Call No. 216; and NAY on Roll Call 217.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JJ BABBITT

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elkhart instrument manufacturer jj Babbitt Company, Inc., and to join them in celebrating 100 years of success.

In 1919, Jesse James Babbitt produced the first of many beautifully crafted mouthpieces in his garage in northern Indiana before launching a family business that would last for generations. A century later, jj Babbitt has now grown to help musicians at every level deliver great music and dazzling performances by producing the industry's finest mouthpieces for clarinet and saxophone.

From the beginning, the company has focused on unique craftsmanship and a commitment to innovation to produce the high-quality mouthpieces they have made for 100 years. Not much has changed about the Babbitt business model or vision, and even some of the original machines from the 1930s remain at the heart of production.

Elkhart, Indiana, is the Band Instrument Capital of the World, and as a community we are grateful to have this company as a leader and pioneer to inspire future generations of instrument manufacturers to carry on the legacy. It is an honor to represent the hardworking employees of the jj Babbitt Company, who continue to play such a vital role in delivering the perfect mouthpieces for musicians.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I want to thank everyone at jj Babbitt for an incredible 100 years, and I look forward to many more incredible years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I was absent from votes on 5/16/2019 as I was with my family at my daughter's college graduation. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following roll call votes in the manner recorded below: "yea" on Roll Call No. 210; "nay" on Roll Call No. 211; "nay" on Roll Call No. 212; "yea" on Roll Call No. 213; "nay" on Roll Call No. 214; "nay" on Roll Call No. 215; "yea" on Roll Call No. 216; and "nay" on Roll Call No. 217.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPE ABILITIES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Cape Abilities, a treasured organization that has touched countless lives through its tireless advocacy for individuals with disabilities in Massachusetts.

First founded in 1968 as Nauset Workshop, Cape Abilities has steadily grown into a pillar of the Cape Cod community. Over the past 50 years they have provided disabled individuals with high quality services and opportunities to have meaningful access to employment, housing, community support, counseling, education, and more.

Every year Cape Abilities organizes the Harbor Walk, a 2.2 mile walk along the Hyannis Harbor that brings together staff, participants, partners, and supporters to help raise funds and awareness for the important work that Cape Abilities does. This year's walk is particularly meaningful, as it will be held in celebration of the more than 50 years of service that Cape Abilities has provided since its inception. By treating the people it serves with dignity and respect, the positive impact that Cape Abilities has had in the Cape Cod community is unparalleled.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the 50th anniversary of Cape Abilities and offer my sincere gratitude for their dedication to bettering their community. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their service and wishing them all the best in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Friday May 17, 2019 due to a family commitment. I took my oldest son on a college visit. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 215; YEA on Roll Call No. 216; and NAY on Roll Call No. 217.

HOUSE PASSAGE OF THE EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to note the House's passage of the Equality Act (H.R. 5), to afford nationwide protection against discrimination for LGBTQ people in employment, housing, credit, education, public service and spaces, federally funded programs and federal jury service. Equality for all Americans has long been one of my signature issues, but my work for equal treatment for the LGBTQ community has had to have an additional dimension. Republicans have often tried to use the District of Columbia's unequal status as a weapon against the LGBTQ community. Opponents of equality for the LGBTQ community have consistently targeted the District to pass their discriminatory agenda. I have fought them off at every turn, beginning with protecting D.C.'s domestic partnerships law, ahead of its time in 1992, defending the District's marriage equality and same-sex adoptions laws, and protecting D.C.'s law that prohibits religiously affiliated schools from denying LGBTQ students access to services and facilities. In addition, I recently reintroduced bills to protect LGBTQ jurors from discrimination in local D.C. courts, action only Congress